



## WASHaholics Anonymous

On water and sanitation services that last

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## Sustainable Services Initiative

*A new approach by Viva con Agua & Welthungerhilfe*

**SSI - Sustainable Services Initiative**  
Supported by Viva con Agua in Uganda, Ethiopia, Malawi and Nepal

**The facts**

Between 2000 and 2010, approximately 800 million people were provided „first-time access“ to water

Of 126,251 water points in 37 countries being monitored by AKVO Flow - 20% are non-functional and 10% are functional but have problems

National data is usually disaggregated into only two categories - „No access“ and „access to improved source“

**The alternative facts**

Give us Euro 25 and we will provide a family with safe drinking water - Forever!

If the water installation breaks down, it's usually because of the corruption within committees, local government and poor national policies. We are transparent and accountable.

**The Vicious Cycle**

**We build, handover and move on**

Our default WASH program design

- Build new or rehabilitate water infrastructure
- Build new or rehabilitate toilets
- Training for hygiene and management

We don't know where we have built it and if it's still working

- No inventory
- Occasional monitoring during implementation
- No post implementation monitoring

**The questionable cause of failure fallacy**

Pump breakdowns are frequently associated with

- Poor national policies
- Corruption
- Inadequate community management

The effect of this is that our WASH projects

- Ignore or don't support national policy
- Are suspicious of govt. motives/actions
- Repeat our default WASH program design

**SSI - A Systems Approach**

Shift from thinking about WASH only in terms of hardware to WASH services

Commit to the long-term in meaningful units of scale (e.g. district) to provide universal coverage

Align our programmes with others, collaborate and compliment but clearly define responsibilities.

Work to strengthen local government and country systems

Promote shared monitoring and feedback to improve performance and accountability - not being afraid ourselves

VIVA CON AGUA

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SANKT PAULI